

Appln. No.: 09/963,324  
Amendment Dated August 11, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of May 11, 2006

MATP-611US

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**AUG 11 2006****Remarks/Arguments:**

Claims 1-14 and 16-18 are pending in the above-identified application.

Claims 1, 3, 7-8, 13-14 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of Luchaup and Kroon et al. With regard to claim 1, claim 1 has been amended to include,

...ii. an analog to digital converter for digitizing the utterance;

iii a codec for compressing the digitized utterance **directly**...  
(Emphasis added).

Basis for these amendments may be found in the specification at paragraphs [0033]-[0035] and Figure 2. In particular, neither Luchaup, Kroon et al., nor their combination disclose or suggest a codec for compressing the digitized utterance directly, as required by amended claim 1. In the previous Office Action, Applicants argued that Luchaup does not disclose or suggest compressing the audio signal before sending it to the host device. In the present Office Action, Examiner asserts that Applicants' arguments are moot in view of new grounds for rejection. (Page 2, para 1). In particular, Examiner asserts that "Kroon teaches a system for speech command recognition that compresses the speech input at the transmission system..." (Page 3, lines 16-17).

The invention to Kroon et al. includes a compression transform unit 325 which compresses a speech analysis signal  $a(n)$ . (Col. 8, lines 63-65 and Fig. 3(a)). The speech analysis signal  $a(n)$  is not the digitized speech signal. Rather, the speech analysis signal includes a plurality of analysis or linear predictive coding (LPC) coefficient vectors. Further, the speech analysis signal includes segments of the original speech signal. These segments are preferably on the order of 20 milliseconds in length. (Col. 4, lines 1-11). Thus, the original signal takes time to be converted into the speech analysis signal which is eventually compressed. Applicant's claimed feature of "a codec for compressing the digitized utterance directly" is advantageous over the prior art because the original speech signal is compressed and transmitted in a shorter time interval.

Because neither Luchaup, Kroon et al., nor their combination disclose the limitations of claim 1, claim 1 is not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Luchaup and Kroon et al. Claims 3 and 7-8 depend from claim 1. Accordingly, claims 3 and 7-8 are not

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subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Luchaup and Kroon et al. for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

With regard to claim 13, claim 13, while not identical to claim 1, includes features similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 1. Thus, claim 13 is also not subject to rejection for the same reasons as those set forth above with regard to claim 1. Claim 14 depends from claim 13. Accordingly, claim 14 is also not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Luchaup and Kroon et al. for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

With regard to claim 17, claim 17, while not identical to claim 1, includes features similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 1. Thus, claim 17 is also not subject to rejection for the same reasons as those set forth above with regard to claim 1.

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of Luchaup, Kroon et al. and Douglas. Kroon et al. are described above. Luchaup and Douglas were described in the previous response. Douglas does not disclose or suggest any compression of the voice signals. Accordingly, Douglas does not disclose or suggest "a codec for compressing the digitized utterance directly." Because neither Luchaup, Kroon et al., Douglas nor their combination disclose the limitations of claim 1, claim 1 is not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Luchaup and Kroon et al. and Douglas. Claim 2 depends from claim 1. Accordingly, claim 2 is also not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Luchaup, Kroon et al. and Douglas for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Claims 4-6 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of Luchaup, Kroon et al. and Mignot. Kroon et al. are described above. Luchaup and Mignot were described in the previous response. Mignot et al. do not disclose or suggest any compression of the digitized audio signal. Accordingly, Mignot does not disclose or suggest "a codec for compressing the digitized utterance directly." Because neither Luchaup, Kroon et al., Mignot nor their combination disclose the limitations of claim 1, claim 1 is not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Luchaup, Kroon et al. and Mignot. Claims 4-6 and 9 depend from claim 1. Accordingly, claims 4-6 and 9 are also not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Luchaup, Kroon et al. and Mignot for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

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Claims 16 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of Luchaup, Kroon et al. and Kolde et al. In particular, neither Luchaup, Kroon et al., Kolde et al. nor their combination disclose or suggest,

...iii. an analog to digital converter for digitizing the utterance;

iv. a codec for compressing the digitized utterance **directly**...(Emphasis added).


As set forth in claim 18, claim 16 includes a similar recitation.

Kroon et al. are described above. Luchaup and Kolde et al. were described in the previous response. Kolde et al. do not disclose or suggest any compression of the digitized audio signal. Accordingly, Kolde et al. can not provide the material that is missing from Luchaup and Kroon et al. Thus, claims 16 and 18 are also not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Luchaup, Kroon et al. and Kolde et al.

Applicants gratefully appreciate the allowance of claims 10-12.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1-9, 13-14 and 16-18.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Kenneth N. Nigon, Reg. No. 31,549  
Attorney(s) for Applicant(s)

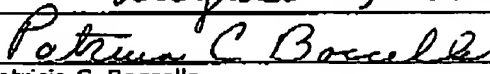
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P.O. Box 980  
Valley Forge, PA 19482  
(610) 407-0700

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